

REMARKS

A telephonic interview was held on October 20, 2005 between Examiner Carolyn Bleck and Applicant's representative Jack Friedman. In the interview, the Examiner indicated that the patentability of the claims would be strengthened if independent claim 1 (and similarly independent claims 13 and 24) were amended to:

- 1) add the feature of "allocating a Software Distribution System (SDS) number associated with a tag", and;
- 2) recite that the feature of "verify the first asset at the destination site" is based on the tag.

In response, Applicants have so amended claims 1, 13, and 24.

In addition during the interview on October 20, 2005, the Examiner requested that Applicants cite relevant portions of the specification that support the preceding claim amendments. In response, Applicants provide support from the specification as follows:

The added feature of "allocating a Software Distribution System (SDS) number associated with a tag" is supported in the specification, last two lines on bottom of page 8, which recites: "For new product (code NW) the asset number must be recorded and an SDS number allocated."

The amended feature of "verifying, based on the asset tag, entry of the first asset at the destination site, being a new current location, in said database" is supported in the specification, page 12, lines 2-4, which recites: "As the equipment is moved between locations it passes a series of checks at predefined boundary points to ensure accuracy at all times." Applicants

respectfully maintain that the identifying information on the equipment (which is the claimed asset) is located on the tag that equipment is tagged with. Therefore, said verifying would inevitably be based on the tag.

In addition with respect to claim 13 specifically, the added feature of “means for verifying ...” is supported in the specification, page 12, lines 2-4, which recites: “In step 312, designated officials at the venue verify the received equipment against the shipment notice and compare against the delivery summary.”

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully believe that all pending claims and the entire application meet the acceptance criteria for allowance and therefore request favorable action. If the Examiner believes that anything further would be helpful to place the application in better condition for allowance, Applicants invites the Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below. The Director is hereby authorized to charge and/or Deposit Account 09-0457.

Date: 10/21/2005

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